



News Release

South Florida District Office, 100 South Biscayne Boulevard, 7th Floor, Miami, Florida 33131

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For Immediate Release

Contact: Thaddeus Hosley (305) 536-5521, Ext. 167
thaddeus.hosley@sba.gov, FAX: (305) 536-5058
SBA Website: www.sba.gov

SBA Disaster assistance seminar for Cape Coral – Lee County

Learn about the SBA's Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) Program and SBA's low-interest Disaster Home and Business Loan Program.

When: Monday, September 13, 2004

Where: Cape Coral – Lee County Public Library, 921 SW 39th Terrace, Cape Coral

Time: 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Contact: (239) 542-3953, Option 3

SBA disaster loans for home and business owners impacted by Charley

Hurricane Charley tore through the Florida peninsula for about 37 hours, from land-fall on August 13, 2004, to its departure over the panhandle on August 16. President George W. Bush declared the area a disaster on August 14, 2004.

U.S. Small Business Administration disaster loans are the primary form of Federal assistance for non-farm, private sector disaster losses. For this reason, the Disaster Loan Program is the only form of SBA assistance not limited to small businesses. Disaster program direct loans from SBA help homeowners, renters, businesses of all sizes and nonprofit organizations fund rebuilding.

When disaster victims need to borrow to repair uninsured damages, the low interest rates and long terms available from SBA make recovery affordable. Because SBA tailors the repayment of each disaster loan to each borrower's financial capability, unnecessary interest subsidies paid by the taxpayers are avoided.

Economic injury disaster loans provide necessary working capital until normal operations resume after a physical disaster. The law restricts economic injury disaster loans to small businesses only.

To begin the application process for assistance from the U.S. Small Business Administration, applicants must call The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) at (800) 3362 or the SBA Help Line at (800) 359-2227.

For more information on SBA disaster programs, go to the Agency's Web site at www.sba.gov/disaster.

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